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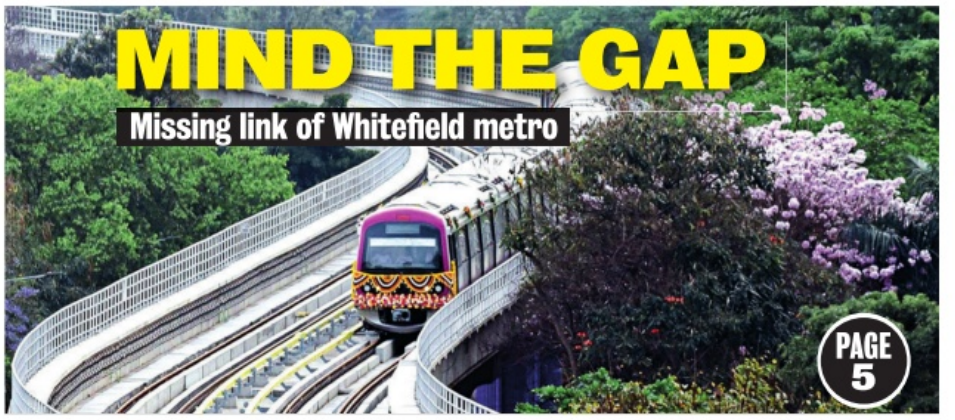
TEMP Max 34 | Min 22 | Humidity 49% Clear with periodic clouds Sensex 62,345 | Nifty 18,398 | Gold 61,068 | Silver 73,580 | Dollar 82.28 | Euro 89.50 | GBP 102.92



Over 6 months have gone by since BBMP promised to clear concrete slathered on base of trees during road repair work; complainants say no action taken yet

THE CHOKE IS ON US

Forest dept realises it lacks manpower, asks road infra dept to take over

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With a spurt of complaints pouring in from across the city about areas around avenue trees getting concretised during road repair work, the Forest Department of Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) had decided to free the trees of concrete.

Higher officials of the department had then declared that while the concrete poured around the bases of some of the trees in the city have already been broken, bases of all city trees that had been concretised while repairing the roads and pavements by BBMP or other agencies will be free of concrete soon.

About half a year has gone by, and many complainants say that nothing has moved on the ground.

"I highlighted the issue to BBMP Deputy Conservator of Forests (DCF). An officer from the department was sent a few days later to inspect the situation and we were assured that action would be taken

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

KAUSHIK JN

"In the case of avenue trees, it should be the Road Infrastructure Department's responsibility to ensure that the trees do not sustain damage and pits with exposed earth are created around the base of the tree trunk

–Dattatreya Devare, Bangalore Environment Trust

Guards of green

... Home guards posted to watch over lakes decide to do more and take care of saplings

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Around 300 home guards are assigned to keep a vigil at lakes maintained by the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) in the city. A few lakes have home guards round-the-clock and others have just for the day. After months of passing time sitting idle or watching something on their phones, the home guards decided to go the extra mile on the job. The home guards started watering saplings planted along the lake bunds by environmentalists, social activists or the BBMP Forest Department.

"Many people who come to Chikka Basavanapura Lake or Seegehalli Lake or the nearby lake for a walk used to complain that the guards are simply sitting idle. I encouraged them to water the saplings whenever it is convenient for them. Now, the saplings are healthy," said Balaji Raghotham, a lake activist.

Hundreds of saplings planted at the lakes, including Chikka Basavanapura Lake, Devasandra Lake, Ganga Shetty Lake, Hoodi Lake, Sadaramangala Lake, Battarahalli Lake, Kalkere Lake, Seegehalli Lake, and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

3 THINGS TO DO

01 Indian handicrafts

Immerse in a holistic craft experience brought by Dastkar at this flea market. Dastkar brings the most authentic experience of Indian handicrafts by bringing a confluence of more than 100 craft groups from 20+ states across India within one arena. The bazaar will offer a wide range of lifestyle accessories, silver jewellery, adornments, metal crafts, carved furniture & decorative products, pottery & ceramics, basketry & fibre crafts, leather products, traditional paintings, a variety of hand-woven, embroidered, block printed textiles and much more.
Where: Jayamahal Palace Hotel, Jayamahal Road
When: May 23 – 29, 10.30 am to 8.30 pm
Contact: 91 98119 11700, 91 98997 07629

02 Dear Audrey

Vikalp Bengaluru in collaboration with Bangalore International Centre presents Dear Audrey. Acclaimed activist-filmmaker Martin Duckworth has devoted his life to peace and justice. But now he's put down his camera to fight for the most important cause he's ever faced—caring for his wife, Audrey Schirmer, through the final stages of Alzheimer's disease. Dear Audrey weaves an intricate portrait of the couple's gritty yet tender reality and takes us back to their adventures using excerpts from Martin's films and Audrey's stunning photography.
Where: BIC
When: May 20, 6:30pm

03 Write Out Loud

Lahe Lahe brings to you an evening of baring your soul on paper. Every Tuesday, participate in a heart-plucking session of poetry, and good company. Come, share your poetry in a circle and unwind.
Where: Lahe Lahe, Indiranagar
When: May 16, 7.30-9.30 pm
Contact: 9886294444

Much needed: Career advice for SSLC students

Need for career counselling at high schools highlighted

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The students who passed the SSLC examination with a second or third class are in a dilemma over selecting the best stream to pursue their higher studies. Most of these students, who feel guilty for scoring low marks in the SSLC examination, feel they need guidance to select the stream that is suitable as per their ability and knowledge.

Emphasising the need of having career guidance facilities at all high schools, the Child Rights Trust wrote a letter to the Karnataka State Commission for Protection of Child Rights to direct all the high schools to have career guidance facilities for the benefit of the SSLC students.

"We are receiving many phone calls from parents requesting advice for their children to select the right stream or a suitable college to pursue higher studies. We have been providing career guidance to the students who approach us but it will be a great help if such facilities (career guidance) are available at the respective high schools for the benefit of the SSLC students," said Child Rights Trust Director Nagasimha G Rao.

Rao said that SSLC students who scored low marks may be compelled to select the wrong stream because of their parents' pressure or wrong advice by relatives or friends. "Most of the parents want their children to pursue professional courses despite passing in second or third class. It will lead to wrong selection and ruin the future of the students. I believe that teachers at the respective schools are the right people to provide career guidance because they are aware of students' ability," he said.

> **"I believe teachers at the respective schools are the right people to provide career counselling as they know the students' abilities**
>
> –Nagasimha G Rao, Child Rights Trust Director

Veena Mohan, a teacher working at Pragna Public School, said that she insists students take IQ tests before joining PU Colleges. "I have provided career guidance for 15 SSLC students till date. It is very important to have career guidance facilities at high schools," said Veena Mohan.

Manjula, the mother of a SSLC student who got 58 per cent, has said that her son benefited from the career guidance. "My son has decided to do LLB after completing the PU because he wanted to become an advocate," said Manjula.

Manju K, a member of the Karnataka State Commission for Protection of Child Rights, also agreed that career guidance would be a great help for the SSLC students who scored low marks. "We will look into the letter written by Child Rights Trust Director Nagasimha G Rao after returning from the tour," said Manju.

Karnataka State Commission for Protection of Child Rights chairman K Naganna Gowda said that he would give directives to the high schools after returning to Bengaluru. "I have received two letters written by the Child Rights Trust on two different issues. I am yet to receive the letter written by Nagasimha G Rao. I will respond to the high schools after going through the letter," said Naganna Gowda.

Vivid strokes of evolution and more

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Art lovers were in for a vividly rich treat at Koramangala's Shades Creative Gallery where paintings by debutante artist Kaushik Tanedar were on display.

The paintings were in oil, acrylic and pastels. A student of literature hailing from Andhra Pradesh, Kaushik ventured into art six years ago in the final year of his undergraduate degree and this was his first art exhibition.

"I like how philosophy, poetry and art make for a beautiful combination. Most of the paintings are first given a story. Based on the story I imagine the surroundings, the environment and the atmosphere. About 98 per cent of the paintings are completely imagined," he said.

Explaining the idea behind the paintings, he said that humans have evolved from staying within four walls. Back in the olden days, humans lived in caves and it was the man's duty to get the food. Now there are benches and a bed to sleep in. "When we say art, it's not nature that comes first but us. We as human bodies are the finest examples of art," he said.

Talking about another painting on life and death, he explained that when we are born, we know nothing about it. Beauty is seen almost everywhere.

Artist Kaushik at the gallery

For Kaushik, the pandemic helped him evolve as an artist, he feels. "It gave me time for a lot of practice and exploring paintings. Most importantly it gave me an idle mind, which tends to turn into a devil's workshop. But I realised during lockdown by constantly painting that art has a very distinct nature. The moment I put the brush down, I feel a certain weakness. I have learnt that if the mind is not ready, the physical body cannot function."

Kaushik has also published 2 books: Rhyme, Rhythm and Hue, and Silence Severed to a story Foretold. The books delve into philosophy, spirituality and the essence of life.

He loves impressionism and it was the first form which he took up. He added that impressionism happens with a lot of strokes, which makes the painting look more realistic. He has taken 15 days for a painting but smaller paintings are done in five - six hours. A few of his sketches were also on display along with the paintings. Each sketch also has a story behind the same.

The litterbugs of Cubbon Park

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Cubbon Park, which is frequented by thousands of walkers daily, is a site for rampant littering, causing distress among regular walkers and residents. The park, known for its scenic beauty and tranquil environment, often resembles a garbage dump, and many have raised concerns over the issue.

While the Horticulture Department is coming up with rules of prohibiting photography, skating or even eating, park walkers questioned that te basic cleanliness is not maintained and looked after in the park.

The issue of littering in Cubbon Park has reached an alarming level, with walkers and residents reporting a significant rise in litter, particularly after weekends and holidays. Despite their repeated complaints to park authorities, little seems to have been done to address the problem effectively.

One of the main grievances raised by the regular walkers is the lack of sufficient trash bins in the park. Many existing bins have been removed, promising replacements during the smart city project, which have yet to materialise.

“There is an absence of trash bins from King’s Statue to the aquarium to the bandstand area, where for almost 200 metre, there are no proper waste disposal facilities

This scarcity of bins has resulted in park visitors resorting to littering, with discarded beer cans, KFC packets, and other waste polluting the park’s pathways and green spaces.

Thanmaya, a resident of Vasanth Nagar, and a regular walker said, “There is absence of trash bins from King’s Statue to the aquarium to the bandstand area, where for approximately 200 metre, there are no proper waste disposal facilities. Furthermore, there is a pressing need for increased education and patrolling by park guards to discourage littering and enforce responsible behaviour among visitors. We have been highlighting these issues to the park authorities repeatedly, but there seems to be little action taken to address the problem of littering.”

Sunita Kumar from ‘We love Cubbon Park’ added that the littering issue at Cubbon Park extends beyond food waste and plastic bottles.

The presence of plastic toys, soiled diapers, and discarded wax-coated paper cups adds to the growing concerns. The inadequate number and small size of the newly installed trash bins by Smart City are inadequate and many are even damaged. The vendors that are parked outside don’t have bins and throw the trash on road. Though food is not allowed, people end up bringing and litter it into wetland and even the bamboo grove and lawns. New storage dry bins are yet to be installed, he explained. The walkers emphasised on the need for an increased number of well-maintained trash bins throughout the park, effective monitoring by security guards, and comprehensive signage to deter littering.

When BM tried contacting the horticulture department official, they were unresponsive.

Attack on BJP leader’s brother: 2 held

Bengaluru police on Monday arrested two accused in connection with the attack on the residence of BJP candidate Padmanabha Reddy’s brother.

The accused have been identified as Mubarak and Hafeez.

According to the sources, Padmanabha Reddy’s brother Anil Reddy’s bike was set on fire and his son was assaulted. The incident took place on the afternoon of May 13, the day of counting of votes.

“The act was caught on the CCTV camera and it was seen that the accused were carrying petrol in a bottle before the incident took place. Currently, we have arrested two people and are investigating the case,” said the police.

Woman delivers in bus

A woman on Monday delivered a baby girl on a KSRTC bus on the way from Bengaluru to Chikkamagaluru.

The conductor played the role of a midwife ensuring her safe delivery. The woman experienced labour pain at around 1.25 pm near Udaypura Agricultural College. S Vasanthamma, the conductor, asked all the 45 passengers to disembark.

She then helped the woman deliver the baby. Later she called an ambulance and shifted them to Shantigrama hospital. Passengers also pooled in for her expenses.

ದಿನಾಂಕ: 10.05.2023 ರಂದು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ವಿಧಾನಸಭೆಗೆ ನಡೆದ ಸಾರ್ವತ್ರಿಕ ಚುನಾವಣೆ ಪಕ್ಷಕ್ಕೆ ದೊರೆತ ಫಲಿತಾಂಶ - ಪಕ್ಷದ ಸಂಘಟನೆ, ಬಲವರ್ಧನೆ ಕುರಿತು.

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ವಿಧಾನಸಭೆ ಚುನಾವಣೆ 2023ರಲ್ಲಿ ಜನತಾದಳ (ಜಾ) ಪಕ್ಷಕ್ಕೆ ನಾವು-ನೀವೆಲ್ಲರೂ ನಿರೀಕ್ಷಿಸಿದ ಮಟ್ಟಕ್ಕೆ ಜಯ ಲಭಿಸಿಲ್ಲ ಮತ್ತು ಈ ಫಲಿತಾಂಶ ನಮ್ಮೆಲ್ಲರಿಗೂ ಅಚ್ಚರಿ ಮತ್ತು ನಿರಾಶೆಯನ್ನು ತಂದಿದೆ.

ಈ ಚುನಾವಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಕ್ಷದ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಯಾಗಿ ಸ್ಪರ್ಧಿಸಿದ ನೀವು ನಿಮ್ಮ ಸಾಮರ್ಥ್ಯಕ್ಕೆ ಮಿಗಿಲಾಗಿ ಶ್ರಮಿಸಿದ್ದೀರಿ. ಅದರಂತೆ, ನಿಮ್ಮ ಈ ಶ್ರಮದಲ್ಲಿ ಪಕ್ಷದ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರುಗಳು, ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರುಗಳು, ಪದಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು ಹಾಗೂ ಕಾರ್ಯಕರ್ತರು ಹಗಲು-ಇರುಳು ನಿಮ್ಮೊಂದಿಗೆ ಕೈ ಜೋಡಿಸಿ ದುಡಿದಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಆದರೆ, ಈ ಶ್ರಮ ಮತ್ತು ದುಡಿಮೆಗೆ ನಿರೀಕ್ಷಿತ ಯಶಸ್ಸು ನಿಮಗೂ ಮತ್ತು ಪಕ್ಷಕ್ಕೆ ದೊರೆತಿಲ್ಲ.

ಜನತಾದಳ (ಜಾ) ಶಾಸಕಾಂಗ ಪಕ್ಷದ ನಾಯಕರು ಮತ್ತು ಮಾಜಿ ಮುಖ್ಯಮಂತ್ರಿಗಳಾದ ಶ್ರೀ ಹೆಚ್.ಡಿ. ಕುಮಾರಸ್ವಾಮಿರವರು ಕಳೆದ ಎರಡು ವರ್ಷಗಳಿಂದ ತಾವು ರೂಪಿಸಿದ ಜನತಾ ಪರ್ವ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮದ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ರಾಜ್ಯದ ಸಮಗ್ರ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಗೆ ರೂಪಿಸಿರುವ ಜನತಾ-ಜಲಧಾರೆ ಮತ್ತು ಪಂಚರತ್ನ ಯೋಜನೆಗಳನ್ನು ತಮ್ಮ 100 ದಿನಗಳ ಪಂಚರತ್ನ ರಥಯಾತ್ರೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ರಾಜ್ಯದ ಉದ್ದಗಲಕ್ಕೂ ಕೊಂಡೊಯ್ದು, ಗ್ರಾಮ ವಾಸ್ತವ್ಯ ಹೂಡಿ, ಜನತೆಗೆ ಮನದಟ್ಟು ಮಾಡಿಕೊಟ್ಟಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಮುಂದುವರೆದು, ಅವರು ನಡೆಸಿದ ನೂರಾರು ಚುನಾವಣಾ ಪ್ರಚಾರ ಸಭೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಸಾವಿರಾರು ಜನರು ಸೇರಿ ಪಕ್ಷಕ್ಕೆ ಬೆಂಬಲ ಸೂಚಿಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಆದರೆ, ಅವರ ಈ ಕನಸಿನ ಯೋಜನೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಮತ್ತು ಅವರ ಪರಿಶ್ರಮಕ್ಕೆ ಜನತೆಯ ಬೆಂಬಲ ದೊರೆಯಲಿಲ್ಲ ಎಂಬುವುದು ವಿಷಾದನೀಯ.

ಅದೇ ರೀತಿ ರಾಜ್ಯಾಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರಾದ ಶ್ರೀ ಸಿ.ಎಂ. ಇಬ್ರಾಹಿಂ ರವರು ರಾಜ್ಯದಾದ್ಯಂತ ಪ್ರವಾಸ ಕೈಗೊಂಡು ಅಲ್ಪಸಂಖ್ಯಾತರು, ಹಿಂದುಳಿದ ವರ್ಗದವರು ಹಾಗೂ ಇತರೆ ಸಮುದಾಯದವರನ್ನು ಒಗ್ಗೂಡಿಸಲು ಸರ್ವ ಪ್ರಯತ್ನ ನಡೆಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ನೂರಾರು ಚುನಾವಣಾ ರ್ಯಾಲಿಗಳನ್ನು ನಡೆಸಿ, ಕಾರ್ಯಕರ್ತರನ್ನು ಹುರಿದುಂಬಿಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಆದರೆ, ಅವರ ಪ್ರಯತ್ನಕ್ಕೆ ನಿರೀಕ್ಷಿತ ಬೆಂಬಲ ಜನತೆಯಿಂದ ದೊರೆಯಲಿಲ್ಲ.

ಮುಂದುವರೆದು, ನನ್ನ 90 ರ ವಯಸ್ಸಿನಲ್ಲಿ ನನ್ನ ದೈಹಿಕ ಸ್ಥಿತಿ ಅಷ್ಟೊಂದು ಸಹಜವಾಗಿ ಇಲ್ಲದಿದ್ದರೂ ಸಹ ನಾನು ಶಕ್ತಿ ಮೀರಿ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳು ಕೋರಿದ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂಚರಿಸಿ, ಪಕ್ಷ ಮತ್ತು ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳ ಪರವಾಗಿ ಚುನಾವಣಾ ಪ್ರಚಾರ ಸಭೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಿದ್ದೇನೆ ಮತ್ತು ಈ ಪ್ರಚಾರ ಸಭೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಜನತೆ ಅಪೂರ್ವ ಬೆಂಬಲ ಸೂಚಿಸಿದ್ದರು. ಈ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಪ್ರಯತ್ನಗಳಿಗೆ ಈ ಚುನಾವಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮತದಾರರು ನಮ್ಮ ಪಕ್ಷ ಮತ್ತು ನಮ್ಮ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳನ್ನು ಬೆಂಬಲಿಸಿಲ್ಲ.

ಪ್ರಜಾಪ್ರಭುತ್ವದ ಚುನಾವಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಕ್ಷ ಮತ್ತು ಅದರ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಏಳು-ಬೀಳುಗಳು ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯವಾಗಿರುವುದು ನಾವೆಲ್ಲ ಗಮನಿಸಿದ್ದೇವೆ. ಪಕ್ಷಕ್ಕೆ ಮತ್ತು ನಮಗೆ ದೊರೆತಿರುವ ಈ ಫಲಿತಾಂಶದಿಂದ ನೀವು ಧೃತಿಗೆಟ್ಟು ಎದೆಗುಂದಬಾರದು. ಇಂತಹ ಹಲವಾರು ಏಳು-ಬೀಳುಗಳನ್ನು ನನ್ನ 6 ದಶಕಗಳ ರಾಜಕೀಯ ಜೀವನದಲ್ಲಿ ಕಂಡಿದ್ದೇನೆ ಮತ್ತು ಅನುಭವಿಸಿದ್ದೇನೆ. ನಮ್ಮ 1989ರ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ವಿಧಾನಸಭೆ ಚುನಾವಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನಮ್ಮ ಪಕ್ಷ ಕೇವಲ 2 ಸ್ಥಾನಗಳಿದ್ದದ್ದು ಗುಂಟು. ತದನಂತರ, 1994ರಲ್ಲಿ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಜನತೆಯ ಆಶೀರ್ವಾದಿಂದ ನಮ್ಮ ಪಕ್ಷ ಅಧಿಕಾರಕ್ಕೆ ಬಂದು, ನಾನು ರಾಜ್ಯದ ಆಡಳಿತ ಚುಕ್ಕಾಣಿ ಹಿಡಿಯುವ ಸನ್ನಿವೇಶ ಲಭಿಸಿತು.

ಈ ಹಿನ್ನೆರೆಯಲ್ಲಿ, ಚುನಾವಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ತಾವು ಸ್ಪರ್ಧಿಸಿ, ಕಹಿ ಅನುಭವಿಸಿ, ಸಾಕಷ್ಟು ಕಷ್ಟ-ನಷ್ಟ ಹೊಂದಿದ್ದೀರಿ. ಆದರೆ, ಪಕ್ಷ, ಶಾಸಕಾಂಗ ಪಕ್ಷದ ನಾಯಕರು, ರಾಜ್ಯಾಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು ಹಾಗೂ ನಾನು ಒಳಗೊಂಡಂತೆ ಎಲ್ಲರೂ ಸದಾ ಕಾಲ ನಿಮ್ಮ ನೆರವಿಗೆ ಮತ್ತು ಬೆಂಬಲಕ್ಕೆ ನಿಲ್ಲುತ್ತೇವೆ ಎಂಬ ಆಶ್ವಾಸನೆ ನೀಡುತ್ತೇನೆ.

ಆದ್ದರಿಂದ, ಎದೆಗುಂದದೇ ಮತ್ತು ಧೃತಿಗೆಡದೇ ನಾವೆಲ್ಲರೂ ಒಟ್ಟಾಗಿ ಸೇರಿ ಪಕ್ಷವನ್ನು ಸಂಘಟಿಸಿ, ವೃದ್ಧಿಸಿ, ಮುನ್ನಡೆಸೋಣ ಮತ್ತು ಶೀಘ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ಬರುವ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳ ಮತ್ತು ನಗರ ಸ್ಥಳೀಯ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳ ಚುನಾವಣೆಗಳನ್ನು ಸಂಘರ್ಷವೆಂದು ಕೈಗೆತ್ತಿಕೊಂಡು ಹೋರಾಟ ನಡೆಸೋಣ. ಮುಂದಿನ ದಿನಗಳಲ್ಲಿ, ಭಗವಂತ ನಿಮ್ಮ ಶ್ರಮ, ದುಡಿಮೆ ಮತ್ತು ಪ್ರಯತ್ನಗಳಿಗೆ ತಕ್ಕ ಯಶಸ್ಸು ಮತ್ತು ಜಯ ನೀಡಲೆಂದು ಪ್ರಾರ್ಥಿಸುತ್ತೇನೆ.

ತಮ್ಮ ವಿಶ್ವಾಸಿ,

ವಂದನೆಗಳೊಂದಿಗೆ,

(ಹೆಚ್.ಡಿ. ದೇವೇಗೌಡ)

At this BBMP park, kids play with danger

Broken park equipment and dysfunctional lights — a deadly combo

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KAUSHIK JN

Equipment in Children's Park on High Street has been broken and rusted for the past two-three years

Children living near High Street in Cooke Town, not only have to deal with broken park equipment but also grapple in the dark. None of the lights in the park are in working condition, parents say, adding that they have to use their mobile flashlights to illuminate the park for their wards.

Parents taking their children to play in the nearby Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) park have to deal with two things: broken equipment and pitch dark. Despite the two-fold risk, parents are forced to take their wards to the Children's Park on High Street due to a lack of alternatives. The park equipment has been broken for the past two-three years, and now the lighting is non-functional. With no lighting, parents are unable to visualise the parts of the equipment that are broken or could cause a fatal injury. Now, parents have started using mobile torches to illuminate the park while their children play inside the premises.

Farrah, a parent, told Bangalore Mirror that the equipment in the park is broken and has rusted away.

"It's dangerous for the children to use the park equipment. The ground surface of the park is also uneven and covered with rocks. There is no functional lighting across the park. There is one light at the entrance, and the rest of the park is shrouded in darkness. Some parents have started using mobile torches to illuminate the park. There is no regulation of the visitors, and even adults can be seen walking in. Our repeated efforts to highlight the issue to officials have been in vain," she said. Parents added that if officials do not heed their pleas, they might crowdsource the funding and repair the park themselves.

> **It's dangerous for the children to use the park equipment. The ground of the park is also uneven and covered with rocks. There is no functional lighting in the park**
>
> –Farrah, a parent

Neethi Muralidharan, a resident, said, " The park has become very unsafe. Due to the uneven ground, my daughter fell and got hurt. When the children use the slides, they get hurt. Swings with the safety belt for toddlers are also broken. At 7 pm, the park turns completely dark. We have stopped sending our children to the park anymore."

Another parent said, "The lights in the park have not been working for a few months now. Not even a single light is functioning right now. We have tried to address the issue with the BBMP officials, but the situation has been the same for months now." Meanwhile, BBMP officials told BM that the park would be repaired in 15 days. "We have undertaken the work, but were unable to proceed due to the code of conduct. We will start the work in 15 days. I will inform the concerned official today about the lighting issue," said a senior BBMP official.

A stitch in time saves several lives

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The training in tailoring began with the first group of 15 women

As part of its progressive initiatives, the Bengaluru NavaNirmana Party (BNP) has launched a skill development programme in Mahadevapura ward in Mahadevapura Assembly constituency. The initiative was launched on May 11, and the first session commenced on May 13 with the enrollment of 15 women.

The BNP and the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sanghatana Retired Employees' Association jointly began the course, with the first group of 15 women receiving this training. This six-month training programme will teach women the craft of tailoring. The association is funding the equipment and instructors required for tailoring. The tailoring includes basic tailoring skills with which women can learn to make blouses, bags, etc.

Women beneficiaries can receive training in tailoring for two hours from 2 pm to 4 pm on Saturday. They can practise at the tailoring training centre at any time.

Indira Belde, a core working group member, BNP, said that a group of women from a self-help group approached her seeking training in tailoring. "We started the first batch of training in tailoring with 15 women, and another 15 are on the list for the second batch. The purpose of this training in tailoring is to make women self-reliant and empower women's groups so that they can start their own livelihood. This training is provided free of cost. With four more machines, we'll launch a similar initiative in the Doddanekundi area," she said. There are women who are interested and ready to take charge of their financial situations and create meaningful livelihoods for themselves, but they face a lack of skills and resources. This initiative is to support such women in fulfilling their needs. The BNP was crucial in securing the sponsors and inspiring the local women to enrol in the training programme, she added.

Meanwhile, Janaki Ramesh from Puratana Shri Gangamma Devi Mahila Swasahaya Sangha (a self-help group), one of the beneficiaries of the training programme, said that she learned about this skill development programme through a friend. "I joined this training course so that I could stitch my own clothes. Though I do not currently have plans to launch a business, I am convinced that many others who want to set up their own business will find these abilities to be very useful," she said.

Bhagya K, president of Puratana Shri Gangamma Devi Mahila Swasahaya Sangha, told BM that the training in tailoring will be a great help for women who want to become self-reliant.

The Kendriya Vidyalaya Sanghatana Retired Employees' Association started two tailoring training units at Valepura Colony near Varthur and Kumbara Doddi near Harohalli. "Now, we have decided to shut those two units as many women are not interested in undergoing training. We have advised Indira Belde to select such women who are keen to undergo training in tailoring," said K Uma Maheswara Rao, advisor, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sanghatana Retired Employees' Association.

whatsapp MIRROR 9591233247

Problems in your area?
Send us a picture along with specific details. And please, no phone calls or spamming

Wasting away
Malleswaram

The area in front of a house at 5th Cross, Vyalikaval, behind the bus stand in Malleswaram, gets littered with various waste items.

Lean and mean
Mathikere

A tree in Gokula Extension, 2nd Phase, Mathikere, has been recently cut by BBMP workers, but only halfway, posing a danger to nearby residents and school children.

Pile of dirt
SP Road

Opposite the Ibrahim complex on SP Road, debris has been left in the middle of the road. BBMP, kindly wake up.

A well-planned journey but something is missing!

Ridership for Metro connecting Whitefield drops to 20,000; commuters say it is due to connectivity issues

BMRCL had started the line on March 25 and it was welcomed by many Bengalureans

Data by the BMRCL says that only 20,000 people are using the Metro connecting Whitefield on a daily basis on this route as against the projected ridership of 1.5 lakh. Commuters say the missing link between KR Puram and Baiyappanahalli is the reason why they prefer others modes of commute.

The BMRCL opened this 13.71-km line on March 25. Between March 25 to May 5, around 8.98 lakh commuters have used the service with Rs 2.21 crore revenue. While the initial euphoria pushed the crowd the Metro recorded 1.6 lakh commuters in the first week, the ridership came down subsequently.

Suresh R, a regular traveller to Whitefield said, "Currently, there is no Metro network between KR Puram and Baiyappanahalli. For this two-kilometre stretch, we need to get out of the Metro station, take a bus and then again head out to another station to board the train. Many like me are opting to not use the Metro due to this cumbersome process."

However, a senior Metro official said that they are bang on the projected estimate as they are hopeful that once the missing link between Baiyappanahalli and KR Puram is connected then they can expect more than 1.5 lakh to travel between Kengeri to Whitefield.

An official said, "Many are still working from home and gradually shifting to office. We are hopeful that in the coming days, the office goer numbers will increase which will definitely swell the ridership as well. There are others who still prefer to use their own vehicles due to the missing link. We are hopeful of having them onboard as well."

Officials are also optimistic that once the KR Puram airport line opens (likely in 2026), the ridership will increase gradually as many corridors will get connected. Meanwhile, BMTC officials said that around

> **There's no Metro between KR Puram and Baiyappanahalli. We need to get out of the Metro station, take a bus and go to another station**
>
> —Suresh, a commuter

10,000 commuters are using the facility of feeder bus services which are operational between 5.50 AM to 10.20 PM.

Meanwhile, BMRCL officials said that they are expecting the missing link to be connected by June. The 65-metre-long girder weighing 550 tonne has been launched at a height of 8.45 metre above the Salem railway line. Currently, track laying, signalling and construction of stations are in progress. Once the missing link is restored, it is expected that the frequency of Metro trains will be for 10 to 11 minutes initially due to non-connectivity to Baiyappanahalli. BMRCL officials said that currently train frequency is in the range of 10 to 11 minutes. However, once the 2.1 km of Baiyappanahalli stretch is connected by Metro, then the trains may run at a frequency of five minutes though the exact frequency depends on the passenger load. **BMB**

Too many applications for CET

The Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA) which conducts the Common Entrance Test is facing a problem of too many applications, forcing the KEA to extend its resources for conducting the test.

Sources said that the KEA had extended the last date for applying for CET by three days and this resulted in an increase in 7,000 plus students. Now, authorities have to arrange for extra exam halls to accommodate the additional candidates.

Ramya S, Executive Director, KEA said, "When we extended the last date for filing applications, we hoped that there could be an increase of 500 to 1,000 candidates. Now, we need to have more test centres and also print additional question papers. We are trying to distribute admission tickets at the earliest."

The KEA conducts CET for 90,000 seats in engineering, pharmacy, veterinary science, agricultural course and 25,000 seats for BSc nursing. This year, 2.25 lakh students have registered for the test to be held on May 20 and 21. However, as the KEA had extended the date, another 7,000 students got enrolled. With time running out, authorities need to identify the additional exam centres and other logistical issues.

An official said, "NEET was quite tough this time and many medical aspirants could have applied to CET. We also expect that there could be a lot of BSc nursing students for CET as well. There could be a few who have not received hall tickets earlier and applied again." Out of the 7,000 applications, around 4,500 are from Bengaluru. Bengaluru is followed by Mangaluru and Belgavi cities. **BMB**

Cleaning Bengaluru, one spot at a time

Garima Prasher
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Young Bengalureans appear to have taken it upon themselves to clean up Bengaluru's ugly spot, one at a time. Following the launch of an application by a city-based NGO to report unattended garbage dumps, student groups from various city colleges are reaching out not only to clean the black spots but to report them in good numbers too.

Launched less than a month ago by Jhatkaa.org, the application named 'Namma clean-Bengaluru' has received reports of 30 black spots in various parts of the city. According to the NGO, students from various educational institutes are the most interested in improving the city.

"The young population is playing an important role. This group is tech-savvy and thus very helpful in spreading the word far and wide," said Chiku Agarwal from Jhatkaa.org.

Harshita U, a second-year BCom student from International School of Management Excellence says her area is plagued with various civic issues and that prompted her to participate in the dark spot clean-up drive through the application.

"I stay on Sarjapur Road, and the area suffers from garbage menace and other civic issues such as lack of proper drainage facilities. We live near

> **College students are taking a special interest in cleaning up the city and taking onus of removing black spots**

Kaikondrahalli Lake and even the waterbody suffers from sewage entry. A black spot not only creates an unhygienic living condition but also leads to other issues such as stray dog menace. It is high time we ensure that our city is clean," said Harshita.

A group of 15 students from CHRIST University cleaned a black spot near Shalini Grounds in Jayanagar. The team along with students from other educational institutions collected 25 bags of garbage from the spot.

"While collecting the waste we realized a lot of recyclable items such as paper cups, paper plates, etc. We also noticed that there was a child playing area right next to the black spot. And many harmful items such as smoking tobacco and other such items were thrown. We collected nearly 25 bags of garbage from one spot. We participated as we wanted to do our bit and raise awareness about the issue," said Mehul Agarwal, a student from Christ University.

The application allows citizens to report garbage spots within 500 meters of their vicinity, inform the BBMP officials concerned and create a citizen squad to fight the garbage menace in the future too.

"The next step is to gather more garbage spots in Bangalore and empower citizens to create a change. We will be taking the report forward with BBMP to make these voices heard and solve the issue together in the coming months," added Chiku.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring to the notice of General Public that our Client is intending to purchase the residential apartment bearing No.**2195** situated on the 19th Floor of Tower-2 in PRESTIGE MISTY WATERS, Anjaneya Temple Street, Near Jain Heritage School, Hebbal Kempapura, Bengaluru-560024, measuring 1134 Sq. Feet of super built area, inclusive of proportionate share in common areas such as passages, lobbies, lifts, staircase and other areas of common use, with right to use One Covered Car Parking Space in the Basement Level (hereinafter referred to as Schedule Property) from its owner **M/s Vikram Traders,** a Partnership Firm, located at Subramanyapura, Opposite Subramanyapura Police Station, Bengaluru – 560 061. Any person having any right, claim or interest over the Schedule property may lodge their objections/claims in writing to the undersigned, with documentary proof within seven (7) days from the date of this publication. In the event of no claim being received within the stipulated seven (7) days, our client will proceed with further transactions to purchase the Schedule Property, and no claim/s will be entertained after the said period.
Date:16/05/2023 Bengaluru

Rawley Associates Law Offices, Unit No.205A, 2nd Floor, Saleh Center,No.18, Cunningham Road, Bengaluru – 560 052.
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IT'S A GAME OF THRONES

Congress yet to decide on new Chief Minister of K'taka; 70 per cent of elected legislators support Siddaramaiah

The suspense over the next Chief Minister continued on Monday as well, with both leaders, Siddaramaiah and DK Shivakumar, claiming the throne. While Siddaramaiah rushed to Delhi on Monday over a call from High Command, DK Shivakumar stated that he was staying back, citing ill health. However, sources said that his younger brother, DK Suresh, headed to Delhi instead. In fact, DKS's cancellation of his trip fuelled speculation that all is not well in the ruling camp over the CM contender issue.

As it was Shivakumar's birthday, he was busy visiting various temples as well as meeting his friends and fans, who had turned up in large numbers to wish him. Speaking to the media, Shivakumar said that he wouldn't claim how many MLAs were with him as all the 135 MLAs were Congress MLAs, and he didn't believe in promoting individuals but the party. When he was asked as to why he was cancelling his Delhi trip, Shivakumar said, "I have some problems in the stomach. It's burning. It looks like some infection, and I have a fever. Please let me be free."

The Congress' central leadership will be deciding on the new Chief Minister after its observers submitted a report on the opinion of the MLAs, which they collected at the Congress Legislature Party (CLP) meeting in Bengaluru on Sunday.

The CLP had authorised party president M Mallikarjun Kharge to decide on the CM nominee, allowing the party chief to decide on an issue that was expected to take centre stage at some point post-elections in the event of Congress emerging victorious in the hustings.

Sources said that both the leaders were claimants for the CM's position, and both parties were exerting pressure. Though the party high command was favouring a 50:50 formula, it is said that Shivakumar was insisting that he be rewarded with the CM's post as he had done all the hard work and ensured the party became victorious with a huge number of seats.

Likely to share a CM term?

Sources in the AICC told IANS that Siddaramaiah has put forward a suggestion that he was willing to share the Chief Minister position with Shivakumar.

However, Siddaramaiah, according to the sources, wants the first term and that he would demit office after the first two years with Shivakumar to follow in the rest of the term. With the Kurba community and Vokkaliga community of Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar, respectively, pitching for their community members, the Congress high command is in a difficult situation. The Congress high command was likely to finalise the decision on Monday itself, and there is a strong possibility of Siddaramaiah becoming the Chief Minister for the first term.

> **"I have some problems in the stomach. It's burning. It looks like some infection, and I have a fever. Please let me be free** –DK Shivakumar

Sources in the party told IANS that Shivakumar will also agree for this arrangement but he has categorically informed the party high command that he should be made the single Deputy Chief Minister with home portfolio. According to a senior leader of the Karnataka Congress, around 70 per cent of the elected legislators had supported Siddaramaiah as Chief Minister. The final decision will be announced by AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge after consulting the AICC observers - former Maharashtra Chief Minister, Sushil Kumar Shinde, Jitendra Singh, and Deepak Babariya. The AICC president will have discussions with Sonia, Rahul, and Priyanka Gandhi, the AICC general secretary, KC Venugopal, and RS Surjewala.

— BMB and IANS

'Decision to be made soon'

Congress leader and All India Congress Committee (AICC) in-charge of Karnataka, Randeep Singh Surjewala, on Sunday late night said that party chief Mallikarjun Kharge will not take long and announce the name of next chief minister of Karnataka soon.

Speaking to reporters after a late-night meeting of newly elected Congress MLAs in Karnataka's Bengaluru, Surjewala said, "Party leadership will take a decision. I can't replace my judgement with Kharge Sahab's judgement. He is our senior, and as you all know him. He is the son of the soil of Karnataka, and I'm sure he will not take very long."

"The winning party will be in the first cabinet when we will implement our first five guarantees," he said while responding to a query on plans for the oath-taking ceremony after the decision on the new CM of Karnataka.

The meeting was convened after Congress Legislature Party (CLP) unanimously passed a resolution authorising party president Mallikarjun Kharge to pick the name of the Karnataka Chief Minister. "The Congress Legislature Party unanimously resolves that the AICC President is hereby authorised to appoint the new leader of the Congress Legislature Party," the resolution stated.

The meeting which started late on Sunday night at a hotel in Bengaluru, continued till 1:30 am. It was attended by all 135 newly elected MLAs.

Former Maharashtra chief minister Sushil Kumar Shinde and party leaders Jitendra Singh and Deepak Babaria were present in the meeting as observers. Party leaders like Siddaramaiah, DK Shivakumar, KC Venugopal, Jairam Ramesh and others also attended the meeting.

—IANS

In mood to party? Sustainability is the way

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In order to reduce the use of single-use disposables at social gatherings, Karthika Selvakumar, a resident of Marathahalli, has been providing steel cutlery free of cost as an alternative to party hosts.

Selvakumar told Bangalore Mirror that while many other initiatives provide steel cutlery for events, they also charge exorbitant amounts for the same, leading many to choose disposables instead.

"I bought over 100 sets of cutlery—spoons, bowls, plates, and tumblers—with my own income and set it aside for the initiative. Often

only those conscious of sustainability choose to use steel cutlery, but if it is provided free of cost, many will consider opting to use it. Even if one or two disposables are saved from reaching the dumps of garbage, my goal is reached," she said.

To avail of the service, one must pick up the items from Karthika's residence in Marathahalli and return them to the same address. They are cleaned once again after being returned.

She hopes to expand her service to large-scale gatherings like marriages and other functions that attract thousands of people using disposables.

"These single-use items are merely used for a span of 2-3 minutes in functions like marriages but leave an everlasting impact on the environment. While many are unaware of the situation, most who attend these functions are rather unbothered about the consequences of their usage. Even segregation is not followed in these halls for recyclable materials to be provided with a second chance," she explained.

> **Karthika Selvakumar, a resident of Marathahalli, has been providing steel cutlery free of cost as an alternative at parties**

Since it began close to four years ago, the initiative has gained popularity through word of mouth alone and has been used by over 100 members so far. However, the larger crowd of users is 'eco-conscious'.

"I have had users send in for the cutlery from faraway places like Yelahanka. But these are people who will go out of their way to make a sustainable move. We need more commoners to adapt to such initiatives to make real change," she added.

Anusha, who recently used the service for her child's first birthday, noted that people are intimidated to use such sustainable solutions because they involve work—in this case, cleaning. "Even if one chooses to host a party with disposables, they will have to put in the effort of picking them out. Instead, they can have the workers at the party clean the cutlery and return it in a neat state. It is a hassle-free process," she explained, and she urged the public to use the service in order to reduce the usage of disposables on a large scale.

HEALTH TIP: Almonds are also a very good source of minerals such as manganese, potassium, calcium, iron, magnesium, zinc and selenium

Bay leaves are an excellent source of vitamin A, which is a natural antioxidant and essential for healthy vision

BangaloreMirror | 7
Tuesday, May 16, 2023
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DO AWAY WITH THESE '-ISMS'

> "Ableism is discrimination that favours "able-bodied" people, or people without disability. Disablism is the inherent belief that people with disability are inferior to those without disability

Ableism and disablism – how to spot them and how we can do better

When the 2022 Australian of the Year was announced, Dylan Alcott wheeled onto the stage. Australian audiences are tuning in to watch TV shows featuring people with disability: You Can't Ask That, Love on the Spectrum and Employable Me.

The Disability Pride movement is gaining momentum and people with disability are becoming part of the diversity conversation.

On the surface, it would appear we have come a long way in our collective attitudes towards disability. But two of society's biggest "-isms" still go largely unnoticed and unaddressed: ableism and disablism.

What do these terms mean? And how can we all do better to dismantle them?

Two types of discrimination

Ableism and disablism both refer to types of disability discrimination. The nuance between the two words can cause confusion but are important for acknowledging, detecting, and dismantling the types of barriers people with disability encounter.

Ableism is discrimination that favours "able-bodied" people, or people without disability. Ableism prioritises the needs of people without disability. A building designed without a ramp or a lift for people who require them, a lack of captions for a meeting, and stadiums without low-sensory spaces are all examples of ableism.

Disablism is the inherent belief that people with disability are inferior to those without disability. It is discrimination against people with disability, like those shared in the Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability. Disablism can be a more direct, conscious act of discrimination and abuse. Using disability slurs, ignoring someone, or speaking in a patronising way are common examples.

Ingrained and everywhere

If we are honest, we can acknowledge ableism and disablism are ubiquitous in our language, our homes, children's stories, media, at work and in our daily social interactions. Indeed, ableism and disablism can be so ingrained in our daily lives that most people are unaware of them.

Both forms of discrimination can be subtle and insidious, making them difficult to detect and address. They often operate at systemic levels and are not identified as discrimination.

A good example of systemic ableism is the forced segregation of people with disability into "special" schools or "sheltered" workplaces through limited choice and structural support of these options. Although the process of forcing people into these options no longer occurs in such blatantly disrespectful ways, the result is the same.

Ableist and disablist attitudes are frequently encountered in daily conversation. Subtle ableism manifests in the use of well-intended "empathetic" comments, like "I can't imagine losing my eyesight. That would be the worst." These remarks, even when intended to prompt a connection between two people, reveal deep-seated beliefs and create a greater divide.

People with disability, along with other marginalised communities, categorise these types of interactions as "microaggressions".

Disablist attitudes are more overt. Comments like "If you are unable to walk down the ramp then you shouldn't have gotten tickets to this concert" demonstrate the low expectations and damaging beliefs that impact on people's opportunities for education, employment and social interaction.

Challenging but worth it

Combating disablism and ableism is a great challenge but one that is worthwhile. A broad spectrum of challenges is at play: confronting and disrupting the status quo, valuing diverse types of knowledge and experience and acknowledging the unconscious biases we all have.

At a systemic and societal level, the way we design and deliver systems, polices, virtual and physical environments, products and experiences need to be co-designed in partnership with people with disability – or better yet, through disability-led initiatives.

Generating new ideas and better ways of working will contribute to improvements in daily life for all people – just like ramps benefit parents pushing prams and people using mobility aids.

The emphasis on co-design and engagement with people with disability is increasingly prevalent. However, it is critical to conduct co-design in ways that are not tokenistic and don't merely validate current practice. Frameworks like the Dignity Project Framework, which includes principles of importance for engaging with people with disability, can better support a dignified process of co-design and citizen partnership.

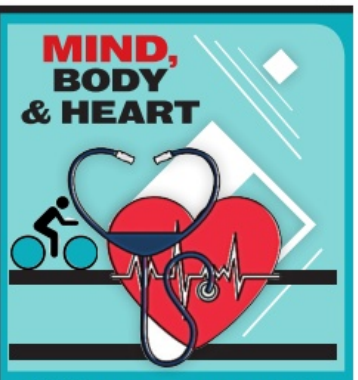
'Not yet disabled'

At an individual level, we all have a part to play in creating an inclusive future.

Disability has been called the world's largest minority and is a group any person can join at any time in their life.

The late disability rights activist Judith Heumann preferred to use the term "not yet disabled" to emphasise that we will all experience impairment and disability at some stage. Thus, we may all confront ableism and disablism at some point. The way to prepare for that time is to actively acknowledge and challenge personal biases, learn about and advocate for accessibility and inclusion in the spaces where you live, work and play and amplify the voices of people with disability at every opportunity.

(By Kelsey Chapman, Angel Dixon, Elizabeth Kendall and Katie Kelly, Griffith University for The Conversation)



All you need to know about...

Diabetic kidney disease

What is it?
Long-term diabetes mellitus may result in damage to various organs in the body. Kidney damage caused by diabetes mellitus is known as diabetic kidney disease. The disorder develops in about four out of 10 of the people who have suffered from diabetes for over 15 years.

How does it happen?
Diabetes affects small blood vessels in the filtering units of the kidney (glomeruli). Damage to these vessels causes protein to leak into the urine and reduces the kidneys' ability to remove waste and excess water from the body. Symptoms don't usually appear until kidney damage is severe, and may include drowsiness, nausea and vomiting, and shortness of breath.

What might be done?
Diabetics are monitored often by their doctor so that complications such as kidney damage can be detected at an early stage.
Your doctor will look for the first signs of diabetic kidney disease by arranging for urine tests to detect protein, and blood tests will be performed to check how well the kidneys are functioning.
Once the condition has been diagnosed, the primary aim of the treatment is to slow down the progression of the disease. Good control of blood glucose and blood pressure are crucial to slow the deterioration of kidney function. However, even if diabetes is under control, diabetic kidney disease may still progress. Drugs called ACE inhibitors may be effective in slowing the progression of kidney disease due to diabetes. However, the outcome may be end-stage kidney failure, in which there will be complete loss of function in both kidneys.

What is the outlook?
End-stage kidney failure due to diabetic kidney disease can often be treated with dialysis or a kidney transplant, though you may have to wait it out until a suitable transplant becomes available.

—Dr Miriam Stoppard, Daily Mirror

Undo this concrete action now

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

immediately. When it was not taken up even a month later, we reached out to him again. We were then told that the department is busy with Republic Day-related work and that de-concretisation would be taken up soon after. The trees are still waiting," said a resident of Benson Town.

Residents near Nandi Durga Road and Jayamahal Road also rued the official apathy saying the avenue trees are still choking despite many complaints raised with authorities concerned.

Environment activists say it is not just the avenue trees falling prey to the civic agency's lack of concern. Many well-established trees have sustained damage during lake rejuvenation work as well. Inner fencing laying work at Chunchaghatta Lake is a case in point.

"The contractor responsible for erecting inner fencing at the lake ended up cutting the roots of the trees to create a pit and pouring concrete on damaged roots. At least nine trees have been impacted. There are many such cases of trees sustaining damage in the process of lake revival by BBMP's Lake Department. The Forest cell of BBMP should be vigilant during such development work," said Raghavendra B Pachhapur, a city-based lake activist.

Tree activists and experts say it is high time that other departments of the agency such as the Road Infrastructure, Storm Water Drain, and Lake Development take up the responsibility.

"In the case of avenue trees, it should be the Road Infrastructure Department's responsibility to ensure that the trees do not sustain damage and pits with exposed earth are created around the base of the tree trunk. The forest cell has minimal resources and thus freeing all the trees of concrete bases will be a difficult task. A shortage of staff or resources cannot be an excuse for such negligence," said Dattatreya Devare, founder trustee, Bangalore Environment Trust.

According to a senior official from the Forest Department, a written request to de-concretise the trees was sent to the Road Infrastructure Department a few months ago.

"The Forest Department does not have the required resources including manpower to break open all concrete around avenue trees. The irresponsible work was done by the Road Infrastructure Department and it is their responsibility to fix the problem," said the official.

They go the extra mile

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Horamavu Lake are growing well, thanks to the efforts of these home guards. "I take help from workers to get water from the lake for the saplings. If there are no workers, I visit nearby homes for water. The residents are very cooperative. I water five or 10 saplings per day," said K Bhagya, a home guard at Chikka Basavanapura Lake.

Manjunath KN, a home guard posted at Hoodi Lake, said that he could not see saplings withering due to lack of water. "I water around 10 saplings per day. It gives me immense happiness. Many people visit this lake to plant saplings on special days, but they don't make it a regular practice," said Manjunath.

Nagaraj, unit officer, home guards, told BM he advised the home guards to carry on with the good work. "I am in-charge of more than 10 lakes in Bengaluru East. I encourage the home guards to plant saplings. I too celebrate my birthday by planting saplings," said Nagaraj.

BBMP Executive Engineer (Lakes) Bhuprada too appreciated the home guards' initiative. "I thank all the home guards who are watering the saplings. It is a good initiative by them," the executive engineer said.

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I, Sharanagowda R/o #11-160/2, Tank Bund Road, Lingasugur, Raichur 584122 have changed my name to Sharanagowda Basangowda affidavit Dt.15/05/2023 notary Ganesh Gowda M.V,Bengaluru, my present camp at B'luru

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Akshay Pathi @ Akshay Manoj Pathi S/o Pathi Dwarakanath Manoj R/o #1077/41, 36th E cross, 28th main, 4th T block, Jayanagar, Bengaluru 560041 have changed my name to Manoj Akshay Pathi, affidavit Dt.15/05/2023 notary Ganesh Gowda M.V, B'luru

I Prasham Mahendrakumar Rambhia S/O, Mahendrakumar Gangji Rambhia R/o 308, D. S. Pride Apartment, 54, K. R. Road, Basavanagudi, Bengaluru - 560004 have changed my name to Prasham Mahendra Rambhia for all purposes.

I Siva Sindhu Bramarambika Patcha W/O, Hari Ratna Teja Polasi R/o Flat No 301, Nandini Temple Touch Apartment, Muniraju Layout 1st Cross, Gubbalala, Subramanyapura, Bengaluru, 560061 have changed my name to Siva Sindhu Bramarambika Polasi

I Somaprabha M S W/o Chandrashekar B H R/o No 19 2nd Cross 2nd Main 2nd Block Nandini Layout Bangalore 560096 have changed my name to Prabha Shekar M S for all purposes

I, Kurumeti Akshita D/O, K Madhu Sudhan Sharma R/o S-304 Hm Tambourine, Jp Nagar , Kanapura Road have changed my name to Kurumeti Akshita Sharma for all purposes.

I, Lubna W/o Asif Pasha, R/o Old No. 115, New No. 12, M M Vidyalaya Road, Vishweshwarapura, Bengaluru 560004, have changed my name to Lubna Pasha for all future purposes.

I, Seetharam Sudarshana Bommalapura R/o #42, 4th main, 11th cross, Jnanabharathi, 1st block, Bengaluru 560059 have changed my name to Sudarshan Bhat Bommalapura Seetharam Bhat affidavit Dt.15/05/2023 notary Ganesh Gowda M.V, B'luru

I, Shantala R/o #11-160/2, Tank Bund Road, Lingasugur, Raichur 584122 have changed my name to Shantala Sharanagowda affidavit Dt.15/05/2023 notary Ganesh Gowda M. V, Bengaluru, my present camp at B'luru

I Sheeja S G W/O, Rajesh Bagavathiyappan R/o B001, Hemanth Orange Apartments, 6th Cross, 13th Main, Vignana Nagar, Bengaluru - 560075 have changed my name to Sheeja Shanta Gomathy

I, Sunil M. B, Residing at No 1668, G1, Sannidhi Pride, 3rd Cross, 8th Main Road, Pattanagere, BEML 5th Stage, Rajarajeshwarinagar, Bangalore - 560098, Have changed our minor son name PRANAV SUNIL, DRUTHIN M. S to AARAV MELEHALLI vide affidavit dated 12/05/2023 sworn before Notary S.R. Thulasikrishna Bangalore

I Ravindra Kripashankar S/O, Kripashankar R/o Ht-213, Ittina Neela Apartments, andhapura, Bangalore-560100. have changed my name to Ravindra Shrivastava

LOST & FOUND

I, Hemant Krishna (aka Hemant Krishna V.), have lost my Original B.A./LL.B. (Hons.) Degree Certificate with ID 205128 issued by The West Bengal National University of Juridical Sciences. If found please email hemantkrishnav@gmail.com .

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Officer's foreign visits, watches under scanner

Aryan case: Probe team points out 'misdeclaration' of expenditure by ex-NCB officer Sameer Wankhede

#New Delhi

Foreign visits undertaken by former NCB officer Sameer Wankhede, booked by the CBI over an alleged Rs 25-crore bribe demand from superstar Shah Rukh Khan's family to spare his son in a drugs case, will be under the scanner of the agency, officials said.

A Narcotics Control Bureau's Special Enquiry Team (SET) had red-flagged alleged improper explanations and apparent misdeclaration of "the expenditure" given by then NCB Zonal Director Wankhede on his foreign visits.

These findings were referred by the Centre to the CBI which had registered an FIR against the officer and four others on May 11.

"He has also not declared the source of his foreign visits properly. It was also found that Wankhede has indulged himself in sale and purchase of expensive wrist watches with a private entity, Viral Rajan, without intimating the department (present or parent)," the SET said in the findings which are now part of the FIR.

The details of FIR made public on Monday show that independent witness K P Gosavi and one Prabhakar Sail, now deceased, were included by the NCB in the Cordelia cruise ship drug raid on October 2, 2021 on the directions of Wankhede.

Gosavi in conspiracy with his aide Sanvile D'Souza and others had entered into the conspiracy to "extort an amount" of Rs 25 crore from the family members of Aryan, son of Shah Rukh Khan, by "threatening them of the accusation of offences of possession of Narcotics substances".

In order to let him walk free, Gosavi and D'Souza negotiated the amount bringing it down to Rs 18 crore and even collected a token of Rs 50 lakh and returned a part of the amount later, the FIR alleged.

Aryan Khan, who was formally arrested by the NCB on October 3, 2021 after a raid on the Cordelia cruise ship a day before, was granted bail by the Bombay High Court on October 28 after he had spent 25 days in jail. But his name was not included in the list of accused in the NCB charge sheet for a lack of evidence.

The SET in its findings, now part of the FIR, said Aryan Khan and other suspects in the Cordelia Ship drugs bust case were brought to the NCB office in Gosavi's private vehicle on October 2, 2021.

Wankhede in the capacity of the immediate supervisory officer "had directed" to take Gosavi and Prabhakar Sail as the independent witness in the proceedings against the accused in the drug bust case, the FIR states.

He had directed then NCB Superintendent V V Singh to let Gosavi "handle the accused" while taking him to the NCB Office thereby "allowing a freehand" to him and others in order to create a visual impression that Gosavi had the custody of the accused, it says.

"It appeared that the presence of the independent witness Gosavi around accused persons was created intentionally in such a manner so as to give an impression that Gosavi was an NCB personnel even though there were NCB personnel to handle the custody of the accused persons," the FIR made public on Monday states.

Violating all norms of independent witness, Gosavi was allowed to be present in the company of the accused persons and even allowed to come to the NCB office after the raid and took the freedom to click selfies and recorded the voice note of an accused.

This position "allowed" Gosavi and D'Souza to enter in the "conspiracy" with others to allegedly demand the bribe from Shah Rukh Khan, they officials said.

Flagging other irregularities, the SET of NCB said the names of certain suspects were dropped from the information note 'I-Note' and certain other names of were included subsequently through modification to suit the proceedings. **PTI**

Building where former NCB officer Sameer Wankhede lives, at Goregaon in Mumbai

Will support Cong where it is strong, says Mamata

#Kolkata

West Bengal Chief Minister and Trinamool Congress supremo Mamata Banerjee on Monday said her party will support the Congress where it is strong in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections.

This is the first time that Banerjee cleared the air on TMC's stand on a possible strategy for opposition unity in the electoral battle ahead.

"Wherever the Congress is strong, let them fight. We will give them support, there is nothing wrong (in that). But they have to support other political parties also," Banerjee told reporters at the state secretariat.

However, to get support, Congress also has to back other parties, she said.

The TMC supremo also made it clear that she expected the seat-sharing formula to give priority to regional players in areas where they were strong.

"Strong regional parties must be given priority," she said.

Banerjee had earlier saluted the people of Karnataka after the BJP lost power there while avoiding mention of the grand old party with which TMC has had run-ins in the past. **PTI**

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IN the court of Additional District Judge at Dharmapuri. Original Suit No: 138 of 2022 Udhayakumar, son of K.C.Nagaraj, aged about 42 years, residing at Kartharapatti village, Pappinaickanhalli post, Palacode Taluk, Dharmapuri District. ..... Plaintiff. /against/ 1.Chitra, wife of Santhakumar and daughter of K.C.Nagaraj, residing at door no: 127, S.P.Nilaya, K.Narayanapura, Kothanur, Bangalore North 560077. ..... 4th Defendant. Notice to 4th Defendant. Take notice the above suit and I.A.No: 2 & 3 of 2022 are posted for your appearance either in person or through an advocate to file your written statement on 15.06.2023 at 10:00 AM before the court of Additional District Judge at Dharmapuri failing which the above case will be decided exparte against you. /By order of the Court/ I.Shanmugaraja. B.E., L.L.B Advocate, Dharmapuri.

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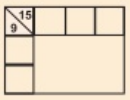
SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

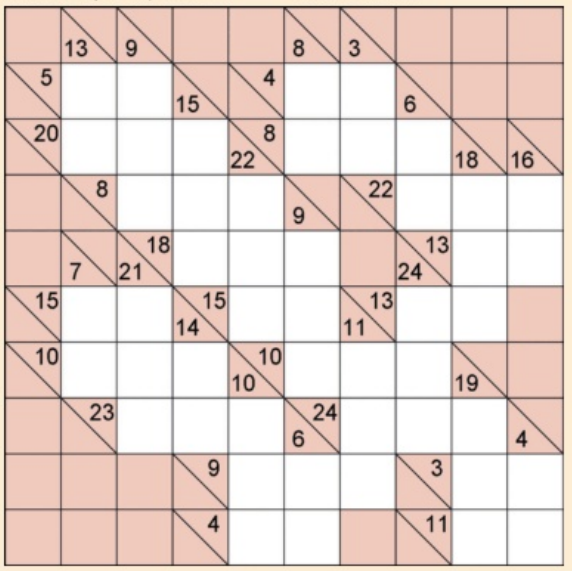
$\frac{XCIX}{XXXIII}$ + XCV + XLIV = ?

Kakuro

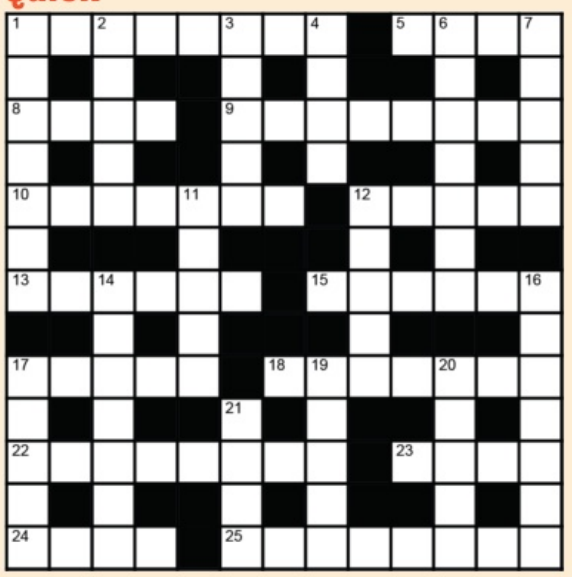
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Roared like a bull (8)
5 Pale (4)
8 Agile; lively (4)
9 Lucky charm (8)
10 Ignorant (7)
12 Heals or remedies (5)
13 Victor or master? (3,3)
15 Students (6)
17 Tilted over (5)
18 Hot pepper sauce (7)
22 Not talkative (8)
23 Popular pub in Indira Nagar (4)
24 Faction (4)
25 Not blemished (8)

DOWN

1 Cookie (7)
2 Insect stage (5)
3 Basic drink (5)
4 Small valley (4)
6 Japanese warrior of yore (7)
7 Jerks or pulls hard? (5)
11 Overhead or above (5)
12 Morsel of bread (5)
14 Walked or behaved in an elated or arrogant manner? (7)
16 Yelled (7)
17 Type of waterlily (5)
19 Per ___: yearly (5)
20 Violent surprise (5)
21 Spiritual teacher (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: Y EQUALS Q

EDIPZSYBD SA ZHESIDQ LHAE LVXFDQWJ SZ EPD IVAD HN EPHAD OPH PVKD ZHE LVAE-DXDQ SE

Linemaro

My love is deep; the more I give you, the more I have; both are infinite

Mindchow

One's destination is never a place but a new way of seeing things

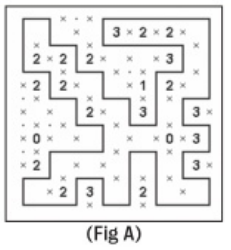
Joke of the day

How do you know the US is going crazy? The best rapper is a white guy, the best golfer is a black guy and the tallest guy in the National Basketball team is Chinese

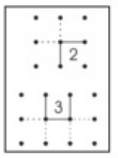
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)

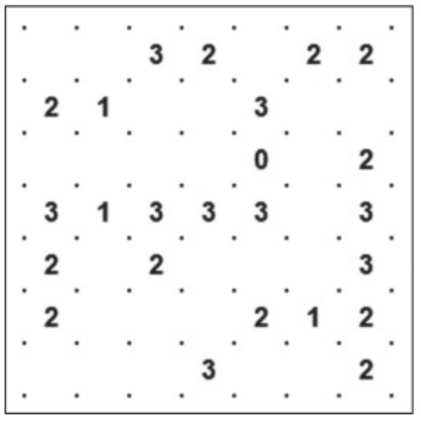


(Fig B) Not Allowed

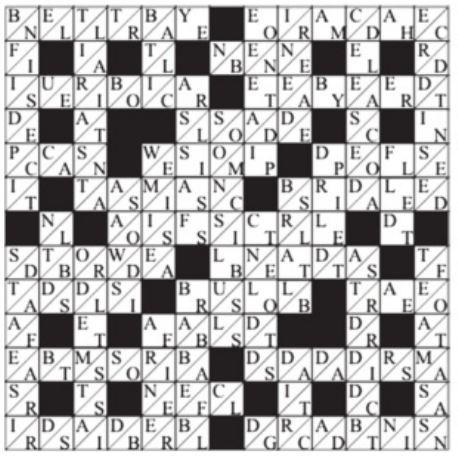
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



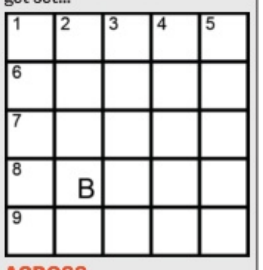
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

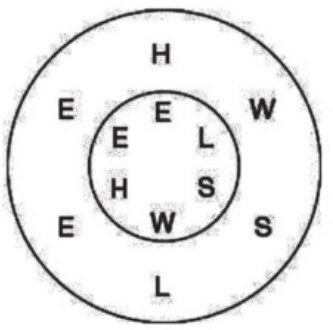
1 Purls; 6 Ate in; 7 Mires; 8 U-boat; 9 No and

DOWN

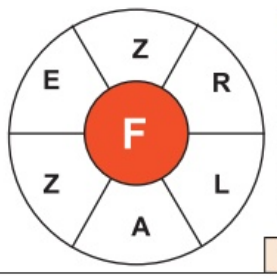
1 Sated; 2 Boil M; 3 I noun; 4 UN err; 5 As apt

Mensapuzzle

What familiar phrase is suggested below?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

05 Average; **06** Good; **08** Outstanding

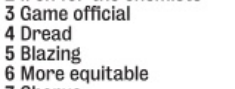
SudokuChallenge

5				2				7
	6						2	
9		8	3		4	1		6
		1	9		7	2		
		9	1		3	6		
4		3	2		6	5		8
	8						4	
7				4				2

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.



Easy = 10
5 5 9 9

Medium = 5
3 7 7 8

Hard = 24
1 5 9 2

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

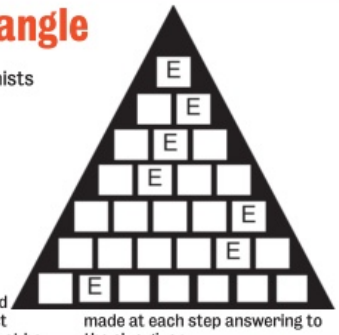
Differences: 1. Back of chair is narrower. 2. Mouth is different. 3. Earring is smaller. 4. Hair band is moved. 5. Nose is smaller. 6. Curtain is not as wide.

Riddler

Can you figure out which well known oxymorons these words are?
1) Urbane defiance
2) Specific possibility
3) Bogus truth
4) Big tiny
5) Gravely comical

Alpha triangle

1 Second vowel
2 Iron for the chemists
3 Game official
4 Dread
5 Blazing
6 More equitable
7 Chorus



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

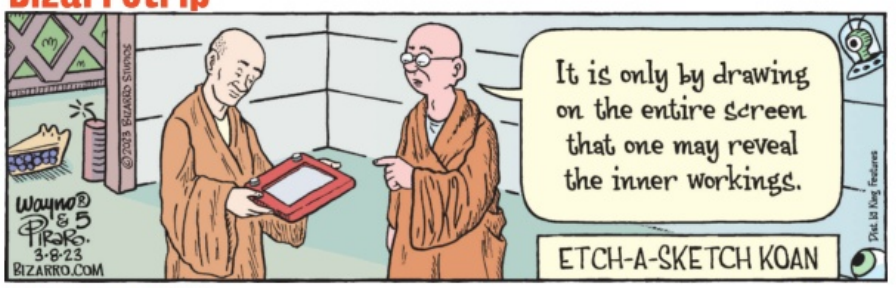
DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

WHAT I NEED THIS SPRING IS A SEXY NEW OUTFIT!
2-25
I'D LIKE SOMETHING TO MATCH MY EYES
LADIES' APPAREL
TRY THE GAS STATION, GRANNY HOOTCH, THEY HAVE ROAD MAPS
LADIES' APPAREL

Bizarrotrip


It is only by drawing on the entire screen that one may reveal the inner workings.
ETCH-A-SKETCH KOAN
Wayno & Piraro 3-8-23 BIZARRO.COM

Diamond Lil

I'M IN SPRING TRAINING FOR FIRE PITTING
HOW DO YOU TRAIN FOR A FIRE PIT?
IT'S SIMPLE, ACTUALLY
I JUST STAND WITH MY MOUTH OPEN, DIRECTLY UPWIND OF A BURNING TIRE

Hart of the city

NICE WATER BOTTLE, HEART. THE STICKERS ARE COOL.
EVER SINCE I GOT A ROSE GOLD BOTTLE, EVERYONE GOT ONE.
VARIETY IS THE SPICE OF LIFE.

Crankshaft

Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today you may have good patience. Meditation may help you to increase concentration, which may help to speed up your project. Your subordinates may cooperate with you, it may help you to complete the project before the timeline. You are likely to go on short travels, related to work. An influential person may help you to boost your network.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today you may be busy with family get together and social events; you may become polite with the people around you, which may increase your prestige among them. You may spend money in buying some artifacts or household stuff, which may improve your social status. You are likely to hear some good news from one of your relatives.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today you will be busy with family get together, you may re-establish your network, which will give you benefits in near future. Natives related to glamour, art, fashions, films, and media may plan to do something new in terms of their profession. Students may perform better today in terms of study. Love birds may enjoy their happy moments.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today you may be busy on the work front, which may make you mentally tired which may affect your day today routine. You may be able to create some overseas networks. You should be careful in terms of investments. Natives in the job may get a promotion.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today's situation is under control now. Your destiny is likely to be with you in terms of gains in the past investments. You may get some rewards for your hard work. Projects which were stopped without a reason are likely to be reinitiated. You may expect peaceful religious travel. You may also plan to donate some amount to any religious place or to some charity .

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today your moon is not positive; you may have health issues. You may face losses in the business or in past investment. It is advised not to invest into business. Your gains will convert into losses. So you are advised to stop making investments in worthless objects. You should avoid being involved in controversies, otherwise it will pull you down negatively.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today is good for your work, you may be able to perform well in terms of work. Your boss is likely to give you some new responsibility in terms of promotions. Disputes with the partner may be settled down. You may lend money for making your assets. Your kids' health may be better now. You are likely to make some investments for kids' futures.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today you may be blessed by the moon. Love would be in the air in terms of personal life. Singles may find suitable matches. You may do better in terms of professional life. Your friends and subordinate staff may support you. Investments in gems and jewellery are likely to give positive gains in the near future. Should be careful for the elders' health.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
You may be happy due to the blessing from an auspicious planetary combination. You may have some sort of energy which may create your prestige among people around you. You may spend your time studying intellectual stuff.

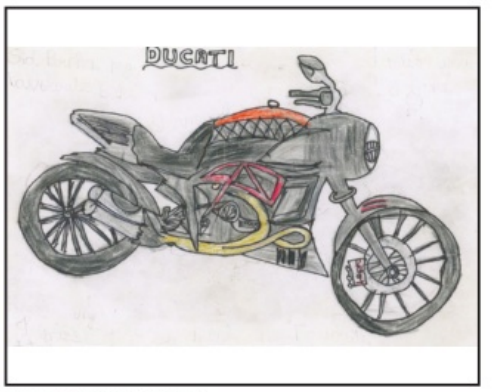
Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today at the start of the day it may be dull. After late evening, you may control negativity. New people may connect you in the work front. With the help of new people, you may try to revamp your business plans. It is advised to read documents before putting your signature.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today with the help of blessings, you may control your indecisiveness. Kids' health is better now. Your colleagues may be supportive in your work, which will convert into success in terms of project. You may expect to get some incentives with the salary. Natives related to dairy, water projects, grains, home making, art and culture may do good.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today you may plan to migrate from your current place to another place. It is advised to think twice before taking decisions regarding migration or change of place. You may also plan to change jobs. There will be peace in the mind. But your kids' health might make you upset. It is advised to avoid speculation in the investments. Love birds shall keep patience before taking an important decision in terms of marriage.

KIDZONE

Jasmine L, 14 years, Bengaluru



Vivyn SR, 11 years, Bengaluru

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
III + XCV + XLIV = XCVIII + XLIV =
CXLII

99/33 + 95 + 42 = 3 + 95 + 42
= 142
= CXLII

BULL'S EYE
tare, faze, fear, feral, flare, flea, FRAZZLE, leaf

STRIKE OUT

I	S	A	B	E	L	G	R	A	T	I	N	G		
R	S		E	E	L	I	C		A					
A	B	S	O	R	B	S	A	D	I	S	M			
F	E	A	S	T	R	A								
S	T	O	W	E	B	E	A	D	S	T				
T	A	S	I	A	N	B	I	D	E	D				
C	A	N	W	I	M	P	D	E	L	E				
E	A	L	O	A	D	S	I							
S	E	R	B	I	A	T	A	B	A	R	D			
B	E	T	R	A	Y	O	R	A	C	H	E			

FAST FIVE

S	L	U	R	P
T	I	N	E	A
E	M	I	R	S
A	B	O	U	T
D	O	N	N	A

QUOTE UNCODE
Technique is noticed most markedly in the case of those who have not mastered it

QUICK

S	I	D	E		U	N	M	A	R	K	E	D		
U		E			R		U			C		E		
T	A	C	I	T	U	R	N		T	O	I	T		
	C		O		N		G		R		N	U		
L	E	A	N	T		T	A	B	A	S	C	O		
	R		F			M				H				
T	O	P	D	O	G		P	U	P	I	L	S		
	I		L			R		A						
U	N	A	W	A	R	E		C	U	R	E	S		
C		V		E		L		U		K				
S	P	R	Y		T	A	L	I	S	M	A	N		
I		A		A		E		A		D				
B	E	L	L	O	W	E	D		A	S	H	Y		

MENSA PUZZLE
wheels within wheels.

RIDDLER
1) Civil Disobedience,
2) Definite maybe,
3) False fact,
4) Jumbo shrimp,
5) Seriously funny

SUDOKU

5	3	4	6	2	1	8	9	7
1	6	7	5	9	8	4	2	3
9	2	8	3	7	4	1	5	6
6	8	2	7	3	5	9	4	1
4	9	3	2	1	6	5	3	8
2	7	9	1	5	3	6	8	4
3	5	6	4	8	2	7	1	9
8	4	1	9	6	7	2	3	5
7	1	5	8	4	9	3	6	2

ALPHA TRIANGLE
E, Fe, Ref, Fear, Afire, Faire, Refrain.

LOOP

GO FIGURE
Easy
5 – 9 + 5 + 9 = 10
Medium
8 – 7 – 3 + 7 = 5
Hard
2 x 9 + 5 + 1 = 24

KAKURO

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 # Another feather in Kate's cap
Film star Kate Winslet has been adjudged as the best leading actress at BAFTA TV Awards 2023 for her performance in the drama series 'I Am Ruth'. This is her first TV BAFTA win

BangaloreMirror | 12
Tuesday, May 16, 2023
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CANNES, HERE WE COME

Keep an eye out for these B-Town celebs who will part of prestigious film fest

It is that time of the year when Bollywood celebrities serve glamorous looks at the French Riviera. The 76th Festival de Cannes is scheduled to kick start from May 16 and this year, there are quite a few debutants from B-Town. From Anushka Sharma to Vijay Varma and Aditya Rao Hydari… here's a confirmed list of celebs who will be spotted at the Cannes Film Festival this year.

Manushi Chhillar
Former Miss World Manushi Chhillar, who won the prestigious crown in 2017, is all set to make a splash on the international platform. The actress will mark her presence at the Cannes Film Festival this year, debuting with some promising red carpet looks. She too will join Anushka Sharma at the event, honouring women in cinema.

Anushka Sharma
Anushka Sharma will mark her debut at the prestigious film festival this year, where she will honour women in cinema along with Oscar winner Kate Winslet. French Ambassador to India, Emmanuel Lenain had confirmed that Anushka will attend the event this year. The actress is known to slay on the red carpet and all eyes will be on her as she makes an appearance at the 76th Festival de Cannes.

Aditi Rao Hydari
Been there done that, Aditi Roy Hydari will return to slay on the red carpet this year at the French Riviera. The actress will be attending the 76th Festival de Cannes as a representative of a cosmetic brand that she is an ambassador of. She had marked her debut at the festival last year and stunned everyone with multiple looks – which included a statement gown and an elegant saree.

Vijay Varma
After flooring fans with his act in the recently release series 'Dahaad', Vijay is off to the Cannes Film Festival. Just a day before the festival begins, Vijay was spotted at the airport. He rocked a casual all-black look. The actor has been reportedly invited by the Indian ministry to represent the country at the prestigious film festival.

Apple of her eye

Yami reveals she loves to spend most time with sister Surilie's little one

After long hours of work, Yami Gautam Dhar looks forward to spending time with her nephew. The actress at times has shared pictures on social media where she's seen enjoying herself in his company. The little one named Saibhang Singh Bhatti is her sister, Surilie's son.

Talking about the equation she shares with him, Yami says,"I am blessed to have the cutest nephew. Now, I am always looking out for him. It is more about where's he and what's he doing? I just want to see his face very often."

Yami shares that Surilie, who married Jasraj Bhatti in 2013, and became a mother to Saibhang last year is quite a hands on mom.

She says, "Surilie is a doting mother. She always says that she wants to raise her son all by herself. She doesn't need any help. She's quite a pro at this job, but at the same time she's steadily getting back to work."

In terms of movies, Yami is now busy with Dhoom Dhaam, which is produced by her husband Aditya Dhar. She signs off saying, "We discussed a lot about the project before the shooting commenced. And the days when he wasn't on the set, I would go home and give him a low down. He likes to give everybody their space."

—**Onkar Kulkarni, ETimes**

SANDALWOOD SHOTS
Y MAHESWARA REDDY

All praise

Actor Sangamesh Upase is delighted with the success of Ramzan. The movie has been dubbed into Hindi and is streaming on Nammaflix. Sangamesh plays the lead in the movie that highlights the importance of human beings and conveys a message that hunger has no caste or creed or religion.

"It was very tough for me to dub Beary dialogues. I took the help of a senior artiste of that region to do it. I acted in this film because it is based on an issue – hunger. It was a wonderful experience," said Sangamesh.

Sangamesh has acted in more than 30 Kannada movies. "My first movie was Veera Kannadiga in which Power Star Puneeth Rajkumar played the lead. I still remember those days spent with Puneeth Rajkumar at Sarathy Studios in Hyderabad. I also had an opportunity to share screen space with Puneeth Rajkumar in Yuvaratna," he said.

A woman's tale

Gowri Shree from Mandya is all set to handle the megaphone for the film Reethu. It is said the movie is based on a real life incident of a woman from Mandya. The movie's muhurat function was held at Sri Patalamma Temple at Adugodi on Sunday.

"It is my third movie in Kannada as a director. Before this, I have directed Amulya and Janarakshaka which are scheduled to be released in one or two months. The title of Amulya was selected by Power Star Puneeth Rajkumar. I happened to meet the star at a mall and he was kind enough to allocate 10 minutes of his time to select the title for my movie," said Gowri Shree.

She said that she considers veteran director Om Sai Prakash her mentor. "Om Sai Prakash sir sounded the clap board for Amulya. He advised me to work hard," she said.

Thanking Anand of Adugodi for agreeing to bankroll the movie Reethu, she said that shooting will begin on Tuesday.

Brinda Acharya, who acted in Kannada movies Juliet 2, Premam Poojyam, and Kousalya Supraja Rama, has been selected to play the lead in Reethu.